

The Sunday Herald

AND
Weekly National Intelligencer.

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WASHINGTON, D. C.—SEPTEMBER 14, 1876.

To John Sherman.

EXECUTIVE MANSION,
WASHINGTON, June 22, 1872.

"Sir: I desire to call your attention to the following paragraph in a letter addressed by me to the Secretary of the Treasury on the conduct to be observed by officers of the General Government in relation to the usurpation of political usurpation, violence, evasions, or election evasions."

"Such acts shall be regarded as acts of treason, and should be referred to the Editor of THE SUNDAY HERALD, who must be accompanied by the writer's full name and address."

This rule is applicable to every officer of the civil service. It should be understood by every officer of the General Government that it is expected to conform his conduct to its requirements.

E. B. HAYES.

The minimum bill of the Washington gas-light monopoly, even where gas at all has been burned during the month, seems to be fifty cents.

It is an assured fact that Commissioners Phelps is to be removed. By all means let his removal be made known. Delay is dangerous. So is Phelps.

What is the use of the gas monopoly printing advertisements of gas stoves on the backs of their monthly bills, when to turn over and look at the exorbitant prices charged on the other side is enough to scare anyone off from using them?

It is to be hoped that the new Commissioner, whoever he may be, will let the career of Phelps be a warning to him, and when he enters on the duties of his office remember the people have some rights which he is bound to respect. Phelps has ridden over the people rough-shod. Consequently his removal has been determined on.

EDGAR HALE is reported to have beaten a brother of Congressman March in a race for the "honors" or a Maine legislature. This is a notable victory for Blaine's bar, and a revenge just about suited to his career. It reminds us of the story of the boy at school who whispered, "Ding dong, you're too bad for me to beat, but I'll go out and make faces at your big sister!"

The question of having some of our many clever female citizens on the board of school trustees seems to merit more serious attention than a reference of it to interested parties, the present trustees, and their progeny holding it with a sub-committee. There is enough of apparent abstract justice in having the mothers of the children and our women taxpayers represented on the board to make it at least interesting to find out how the plan has worked in the various places where it has been tried.

We would call attention to the extract which we have made of Sir George Campbell's recent book on America under his literary lead, because it bears out, in its tenor, all our assertions about the rightful place of silver in the American coinage, the surreptitious grab-game of the act of 1873, and the terrible hardship and wrongfully and desirably inflicted on the large debtor class in this country by the rapid appreciation of the standard of values from one of the lowest points to the highest standard ever known, and artificially created. Considering its British, hard-money source, the indictment is surprisingly sweeping and incisive.

The Republican convention at Syracuse nominated Conklin's man Cornell, and the Democratic candidate at Syracuse nominated Tilden's man Robinson. But while the high-toned fastidious reformers of the Curtis and Curtis stripe knocked under the dictation of the Bell of Canonic, the Tammany Democrats left the servile crowd among whom they stood like a tower, and, though John Kelly as an effective protest against personal domination in the party. After this let us hear no more from Radicals the silly saying that Democrats would support Satan himself if he were proposed to their suffrage by the regular convention of their party and stood on the old platform.

Mr. Hayes is faced with the remark that full silver coinage is all right, but there ought to be more silver in the dollar, so as to make "honest money." This does not when gold goes down again, as it may, then ought to be paid. Certainly Tilden and his adherents are not entitled to any sympathy as innocent victims when they have themselves shown such unscrupulousness in more than coqueting with the enemy and splitting the party in New York city to elect Cooper, as against the regular Democracy, but the principle is the same; delegates are then seen from southern and other solid districts, where the result is so sure that the people and politicians are comparatively careless who is put up. The result is, that the Tammany party vote dictates that the majority of the Bell of Canonic, the Tammany Democrats left the servile crowd among whom they stood like a tower, and, though John Kelly as an effective protest against personal domination in the party. After this let us hear no more from Radicals the silly saying that Democrats would support Satan himself if he were proposed to their suffrage by the regular convention of their party and stood on the old platform.

The proposed investigation into the affairs of the Soldiers' Home by Congress at its next session will attract considerable attention, and, I trust, therefore, a scandal with regard to the management of that concern.

The decision of the Attorney General to the pensioners, so far as it concerned the members of National Homes in the States where there are votes to be gained, and so imminent to the veteran regulars in the Home here, was apparently rendered in the interest of his party and with the full concurrence of Mr. Hayes, who, like one of his predecessors, believes in an Attorney General who decides legal questions as the Executive wills. How inconsistent the decision is, is apparent from the fact that the pensioners quartered at the Home here are certainly as much entitled to their money as the inmates of any of the National Homes, each one having during his term of service contributed his mite towards the support of the institution; and, as only the faithful and those of long service can enter it, it seems doubly harsh that the small pittance due these otherwise homeless ones for wounds and maiming should not be theirs to use in the purchase of such little extra comforts as they need in their old age.

THE UPSHOT OF MINORITY RULE.

The lesson of the doings at Syracuse last week is that one-man power in American politics, however speciously disguised under the forms of popular voting or plebiscites, is always overstrained at last to the point of disruption. This is especially true in the Democratic party, an organization which, as it defends popular supremacy, is peculiarly an exemplar of popular rule in its own ranks, whatever its enemies may say. We have again and again protested, as strenuously as our position of an outsider to Empire State politics permitted, against the factions domineering within the party lines in that Commonwealth (on which so much of national politics depends) of a cold-blooded, selfish set of schemers, who have nothing whatever in common with the great and noble embodiment in the Democracy, and who use the control of the party to yield something more—later, than some time, and *there is no better time than the present!* There could not be a worse time than the present for trying to kill off leaders who control votes. If we did not know how astute and overbearing itself, we would add that Mr. Tilden must see that he takes nothing by losing the State in trying to dominate it. His Presidential aspirations are crushed even more totally; than if he loosed his grip slightly on the party organization. He can afford to yield something now—later, than some time, and the wire-pulling crew, to be necessarily thrown overboard. It seems to have come at Syracuse. We are not inclined, nor is it necessary for our purpose, to dwell upon the damage sustained at this Pavia, where all seems for the moment to be lost save honor; to show what every one understands, to well, and what John Kelly admitted in his speech to the forlorn hope who fled to him into temporary exile, namely, that this split in the Democracy, if persisted in, must bring about a total defeat for both wings now and a staggering set-back in the Presidential contest shortly to come. Events are likely to follow each other so fast that they may have taken a more favorable or a widely different turn while these words are written. But if the best we can hope for comes about, and a new convention substituted for Robinson, on whom the party will rotundly, certainly a startling peril will have been run, and that is sufficient proof for the moral we would insist upon.

It seems to me clearly demonstrable that the blame of this break-up rests upon Samuel J. Tilden, who has steadily forced on the crisis by all the means in his power, in the face of a sorely divided Radicalism, if persisted in, to bring about a temporary exile, then to follow each other so fast that they may have taken a more favorable or a widely different turn while these words are written. But if the best we can hope for comes about, and a new convention substituted for Robinson, on whom the party will rotundly, certainly a startling peril will have been run, and that is sufficient proof for the moral we would insist upon.

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